



15



WILLIAMSON
SANDOVAL
SÁNCHEZ

HOUSE OF BRAINIAC

6

SUPERMAN



13+
TEEN

DAWN OF
DC

SANDOVAL
SÁNCHEZ

POWERS STOLEN.

SPIRITS UNBROKEN.



ABSOLUTE POWER

A four-issue blockbuster series
from **MARK WAID** and **DAN MORA**



STARTING IN
JULY

© & TM DC.

Dan Mora '04

THE TRINITY OF EVIL HAS WON... AND **ABSOLUTE POWER** BEGINS!

JUNE:

- *Absolute Power: Ground Zero #1*

TIE-IN:

- *Green Arrow #13*

JULY:

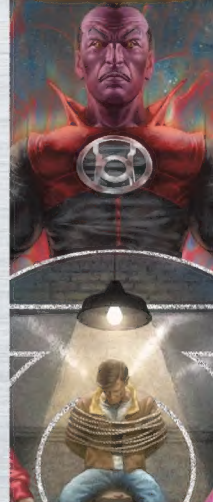
- *Absolute Power #1*
- *Absolute Power: Task Force VII #1*
- *Absolute Power: Origins #1*
- *Absolute Power: Task Force VII #2*
- *Absolute Power: Task Force VII #3*

TIE-INS:

- *Batman #150*
- *Green Lantern #13*
- *Superman #16*
- *Wonder Woman #11*
- *Green Arrow #14*



THE RESISTANCE CONTINUES IN AUGUST!



**BRAINIAC HIVESHIP.
DEEP SPACE.**



YOU,
THE CZARNIAN,
AND YOUR COUSIN
CANNOT PROTECT
THEM.
...BUT IT
WON'T MATTER,
SUPERMAN.

ONCE
MY QUEEN IS
REPAIRED...YOU
WILL JOIN THEM
IN DEATH.

THEN EVERY-
THING IN TIME
AND SPACE WILL
FALL TO HER
IMPOSSIBLE
WRATH.

HOW COULD
YOU DO THIS TO
YOUR OWN FAMILY,
BRAINIAC?!

HOUSE OF BRAINIAC

PART 6 FINALE

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Superman created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster.
Superboy created by Jerry Siegel. Supergirl based on the
characters created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. By
special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.



"FAMILY"...
A CURIOUS
DISTINCTION...
BUT ONE I HAVE
MASTERED, OF
COURSE.

THIS HIVE
CRAVED SUCH
DISTINCTION...

...AND
I HAVE GIVEN
THEM THAT
GIFT.

MY
WAY.



I WON'T
FIGHT YOUR WIFE
AND CHILDREN,
BRAINIAC!

WHHOSSHHHH



FIGHTING
IS IRRELEVANT.
CREATION IS ALL
THAT MATTERS
NOW.

MY
QUEEN.

SHE WAS
PERFECT.



AND
YOUR FAMILY
BROKE HER!



Y'KNOW...
I WASN'T SURE IF
MY POWERS WERE
FULLY BACK...

...UNTIL
JUST NOW,
SO...

ZZZZZZPPPP

...THANKS!

ALL THE
MORE POWER
FOR MY QUEEN
TO FEED ON.

I WILL
CONTROL
YOUR MIND, JUST
AS I HAVE THE
HIVE'S AND MY
FAMILY'S.

THEN I WILL TIE
YOU TO A **ROCK** ORBITING
YOUR **YELLOW SUN**, SO MY
QUEEN CAN FEED ON YOU
AND YOUR POWERS UNTIL
THE END OF TIME.

LOOK AT WHAT
IS LEFT OF YOUR
SO-CALLED ALLIES,
SUPERMAN!

THE CZARNIAN
AND YOUR COUSIN ARE
NO MATCH FOR ME. THEY
WILL FALL AND THEN SO
WILL LENA AND LEX.

YOU ARE
OVERWHELMED!

**THE HOUSE
OF BRAINIAC
HAS WON.**



HOW ABOUT WE EVEN THE ODDS?!

HAPPY TO SEE EVERYONE, BUT I TOLD YOU TO SAVE THE BOTTLED CITIES AND GET TO SAFETY!

THIS ONLY DELAYS THE INEVITABLE. ONCE MY QUEEN IS BACK UP AND RUNNING...

WE TRIED TO, BIG GUY! BUT BIG GREENIE WAS AN EPIC HOARDER AND HAD TOO MANY!

WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO GET THEM AND EVERYONE OFF THIS SHIP BEFORE IT IMPLODES!

CRASH!

ONCE MY QUEEN IS BACK UP AND RUNNING...



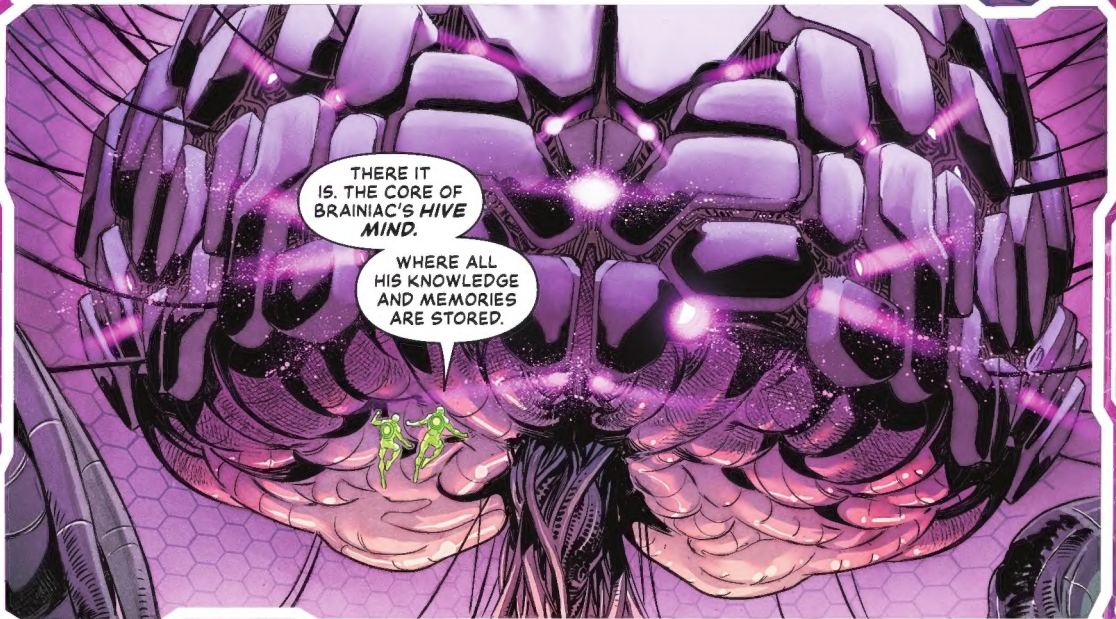
"...SHE WILL DEVOUR YOU ALL."

THAT IS THE LAST OF BRAINIAC 13'S SENTRIES!



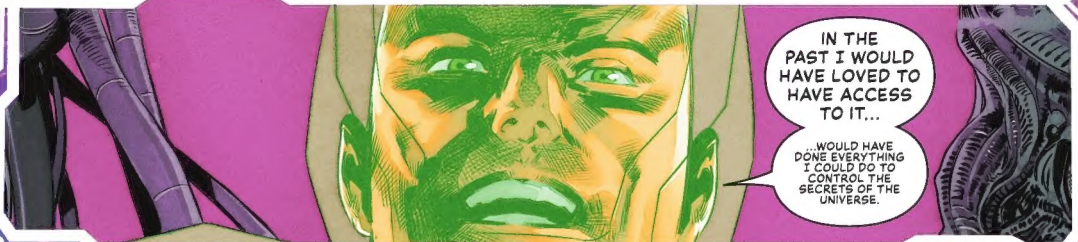
BUT WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, DAD.

BRAINIAC AND HIS QUEEN ARE STARTING TO REBOOT...



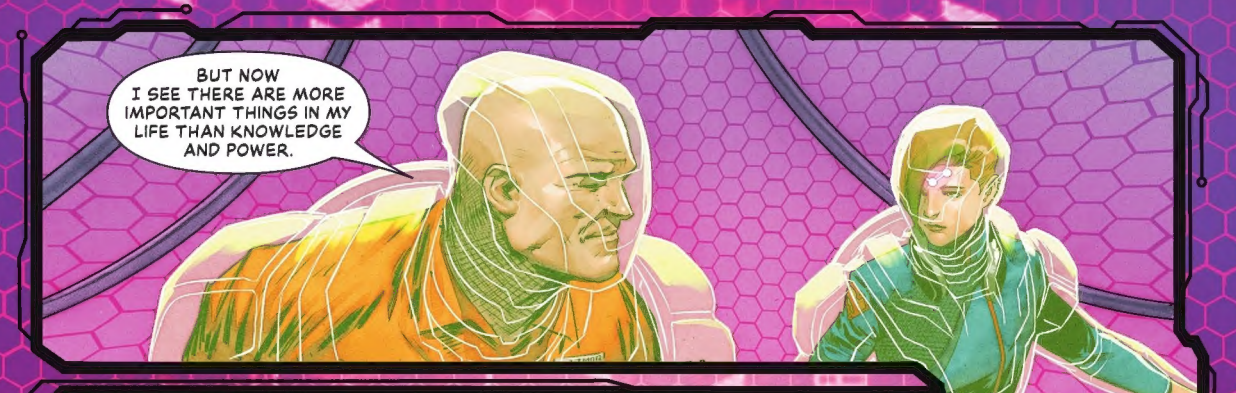
THERE IT IS. THE CORE OF BRAINIAC'S HIVE MIND.

WHERE ALL HIS KNOWLEDGE AND MEMORIES ARE STORED.



IN THE PAST I WOULD HAVE LOVED TO HAVE ACCESS TO IT...

...WOULD HAVE DONE EVERYTHING I COULD DO TO CONTROL THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE.



BUT NOW
I SEE THERE ARE MORE
IMPORTANT THINGS IN MY
LIFE THAN KNOWLEDGE
AND POWER.

WHAT
ARE YOU GOING
TO DO?

**ERASE IT. TAKE
AWAY BRAINIAC'S
GREATEST WEAPON.
HIS BRAIN.**

BUT I MUST
CONNECT MY MIND
TO IT DIRECTLY.

DAD, YOU
CAN'T... YOUR MIND
WILL BE OVERPOWERED BY
BRAINIAC'S TWELFTH-LEVEL
INTELLIGENCE.

I'M SCARED...
BRAINIAC SAID THAT ONLY
MY MIND HAS THE ABILITY TO
HANDLE HIS KNOWLEDGE,
BUT IT COULD KILL ME...

NO!

IT WILL BE
WORTH IT TO
SAVE YOU...

...AND MY
FRIENDS.

CONNECT
AND BEGIN...
DELETION.

TEZZZZ

AAAAHHHHH!



BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 99%.



UHHH, GAME OVER?

THE BRAINIACS ARE ALL SHUTTING DOWN.

IT'S LIKE A LIGHT SWITCH WENT OFF.



WHAT...?

OUR CONNECTION TO YOUR FATHER IS GONE.

IT'S MORE THAN THAT, MOTHER...



DAD, YOU DID IT... BRAINIAC'S KNOWLEDGE IS CRASHING...

BUT NOW...

UGH...

"...THE SHIP IS GOING
TO IMplode."

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 75%.

KRGRTSH

RUMBLE RUMBLE



WE'RE
OUTTA
TIME!

YOU HEARD
SUPERMAN, CONNER.
WE'RE NOT LEAVING
WITHOUT THE STOLEN
CITIES!



I GOT
IT.
IF BRAINIAC'S
BIG BRAIN CAN
FIGURE OUT HOW
TO SHRINK
STUFF...



...SO CAN
THE MAIN
MAN.



KARA,
KON, KENAN, GET
EVERYONE BACK TO
METROPOLIS.

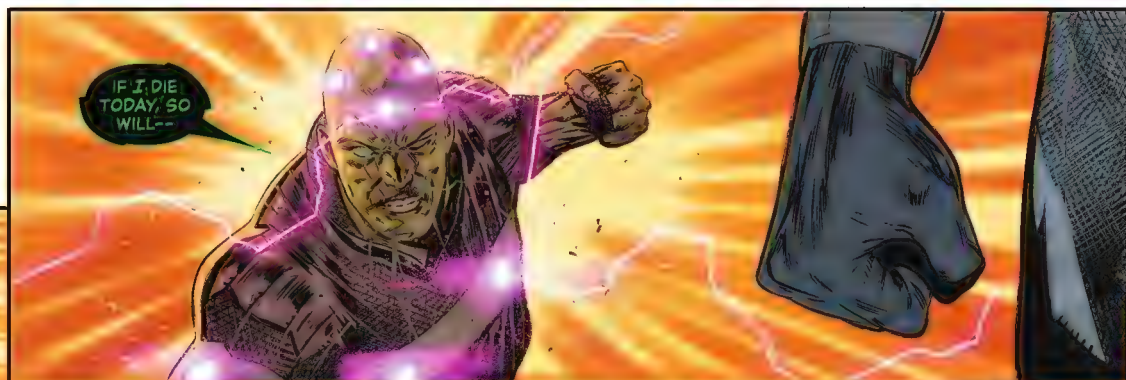
LOBO, CAN
I TRUST YOU TO
GET THOSE CITIES
TO A SAFE
LOCATION?

I OWE YOU ONE
FOR THAT WHOLE
STABBING-
YOU-IN-THE-
BACK THING
ANYWAY.

WHAT'RE
YOU GOING
TO DO,
CUZ?



BRAINIAC
AND I ARE GOING
TO HAVE A LITTLE
CHAT...





YOU
TOOK MY
FAMILY.

YOU
HURT MY
FRIENDS!

YOU
KILLED A WHOLE
CIVILIZATION!

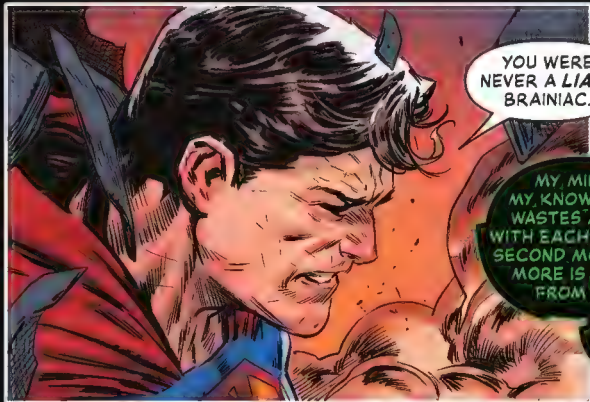
BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 35%.



WHY?!



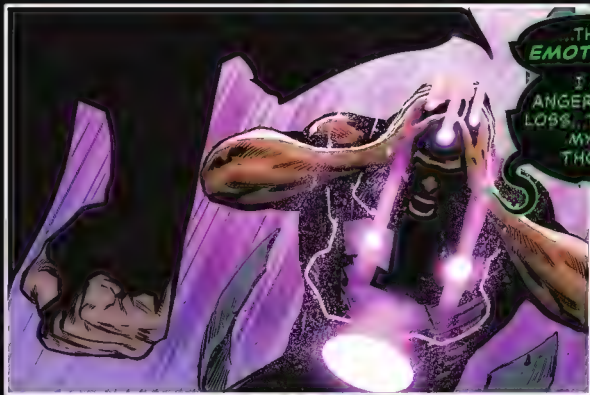
I NEEDED
YOUR POWER.



YOU WERE
NEVER A LIAR,
BRAINIAC.

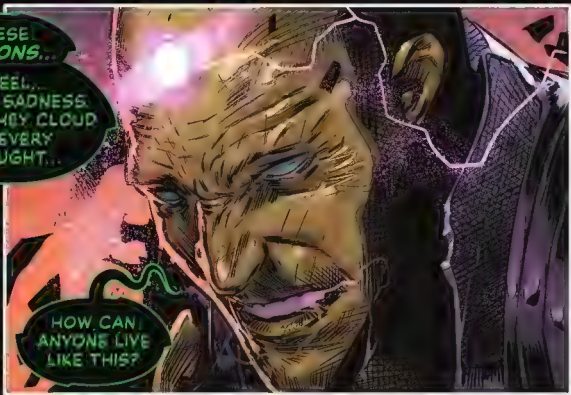
MY MIND...
MY KNOWLEDGE
WASTES AWAY...
WITH EACH PASSING
SECOND MORE AND
MORE IS TAKEN
FROM ME.

AND ALL
I AM LEFT
WITH ARE...



THESE
EMOTIONS...

I FEEL...
ANGER, SADNESS,
LOSS... THEY CLOUD
MY EVERY
THOUGHT...



HOW CAN
ANYONE LIVE
LIKE THIS?



THAT'S
LIFE.

YOU LEARN
TO SHARE IT WITH
THE PEOPLE YOU
LOVE.

TO *CONNECT*
AND NOT TRY TO
BEAR THE WHOLE
BURDEN BY
YOURSELF.

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 25%

EVEN WITH MY
INTELLIGENCE DIMINISHED,
I AM STILL A THOUSAND
TIMES SMARTER THAN
YOU, KRYPTONIAN.

COLU
IS ALL I HAVE
LEFT FROM MY
PAST.

SAVE IT,
SUPERMAN.

I WILL...
FOLLOW
YOU.

BRAINIAC,
COME WITH
ME.

NOW! BEFORE
WE ARE OUT
OF TIME!



WHOOSH!



BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 20%

"SUPERMAN, IF YOU
CAN HEAR ME... I OFFER
YOU... A WARNING."

"I HAVE WITNESSED THE
CREATION AND END OF
TIME AND SPACE. PIECES
NO ONE HAS SEEN."

"THE SOURCE DOOR.
THE GREAT HEALING.
THE MILLIONTH WORLD.
THE CRISIS GAUNTLET."

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 18%



THE
UNIVERSE HAS
BEEN REVEALED
TO ME IN ITS
TOTALITY.



"AND ULTIMATELY,
I LEARNED THERE
IS ONE TRUTH."



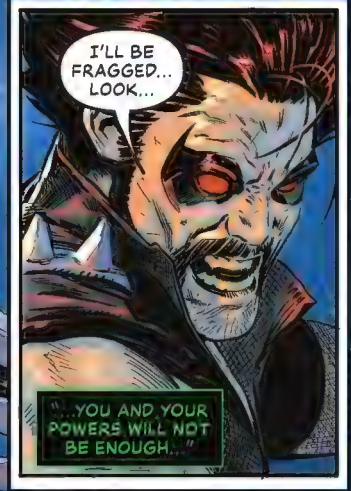
EVERYTHING
DIES

BRAINIAC
INTELLIGENCE
AT 16%



"AND ONE
DAY..."

VRIL, WHERE'S
SUPERMAN?!



I'LL BE
FRAGGED...
LOOK...

"... YOU AND YOUR
POWERS WILL NOT
BE ENOUGH..."

...YOU WILL
LOSE...

JUST AS
YOUR FATHER
DID...

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 10%

THERE
IS...STILL...
TIME...

WARP
DRIVE ENGAGED.
ESCAPE POD
COMMENCE.

AFTER ALL THE
KNOWLEDGE I HAVE
STOLEN, I FELT A HOLE
INSIDE OF ME... I KNEW THAT
I TOO WOULD DIE SOMEDAY.
SO I TRIED TO CREATE
SOMETHING THAT
WOULD OUTLAST
ME...

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 7%

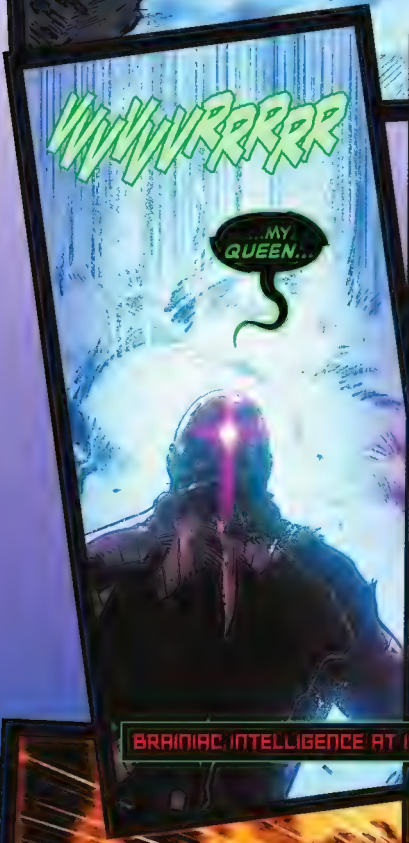
SOMETHING
NEW.

I GIVE
YOU ALL... THAT
I AM...

BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 4%



BRAINIAC INTELLIGENCE AT 2%.



"WE SEARCHED THE WRECKAGE AND FOUND NOTHING. BRAINIAC SAID HE WOULD FOLLOW ME, BUT THERE ARE NO TRACES OF HIM OR THE QUEEN"

"BUT MY FOCUS WAS ON MAKING SURE OUR PEOPLE GOT HOME"

"AND REUNITED WITH THEIR LOVED ONES"

"LIVEWIRE AND PARASITE NEED TO BE PUT BACK IN STRYKER'S, BUT THEY EARNED A MOMENT OF CELEBRATION"

"POWER GIRL, JOHN HENRY, AND NATASHA HAD THEIR OWN HEADACHES WHILE WE WERE GONE, BUT KEPT THE CITY SAFE"

"DID YOU LIVE UP TO YOUR WORD WITH BRAINIAC'S BOTTLED CITIES, LOBO?"

"DAMN RIGHT I DID. SORT OF."

"VRIL AND HIS KIN DID THE HEAVY LIFTING. VRIL KNEW HIS DADDY'S TECH AND WHAT TO DO WITH IT."

"THEY DIDN'T **JUST** ENLARGE BRAINIAC'S TINY BOTTLES...THEY MADE SOMETHING **NEW...**"

"**COLU 2.0.**"

"ALL THOSE LOST CITIES ON SOME GIANT MELTING POT OF A PLANET...GOING TO BE **ABSOLUTE CHAOS.**"

MY KIND OF GIG.
I THINK I'LL HEAD
OUT THERE AND SEE WHAT
KIND OF TROUBLE
MEETS ME.

I'M SORRY
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED TO YOUR
PEOPLE.

IT'S ALL
GOOD. I'M ONLY
PEEVED I DIDN'T GET
TO TAKE THEM OUT
MYSELF.

LOBO...

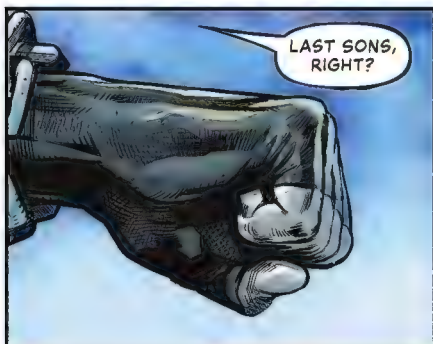


DON'T GET ALL
TEARY-EYED WITH ME,
SUPERJERK. I LIKE
THE NEW YOU.

A WISE
MAN ONCE
SAID...
..."ANGER
IS A GIFT."



LAST SONGS,
RIGHT?



LATER, YA BAD
BASTICH!

NEXT TIME
WE'LL HAVE A
REAL FIGHT!

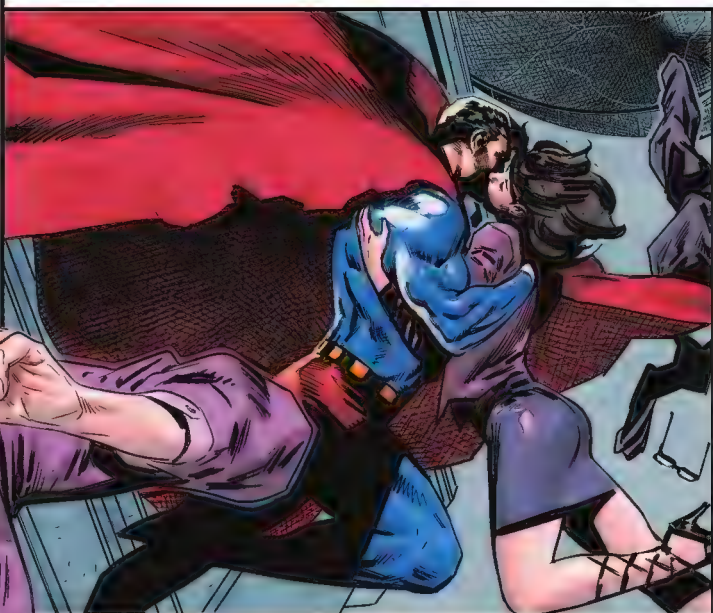


IT'S
ALWAYS
REAL...

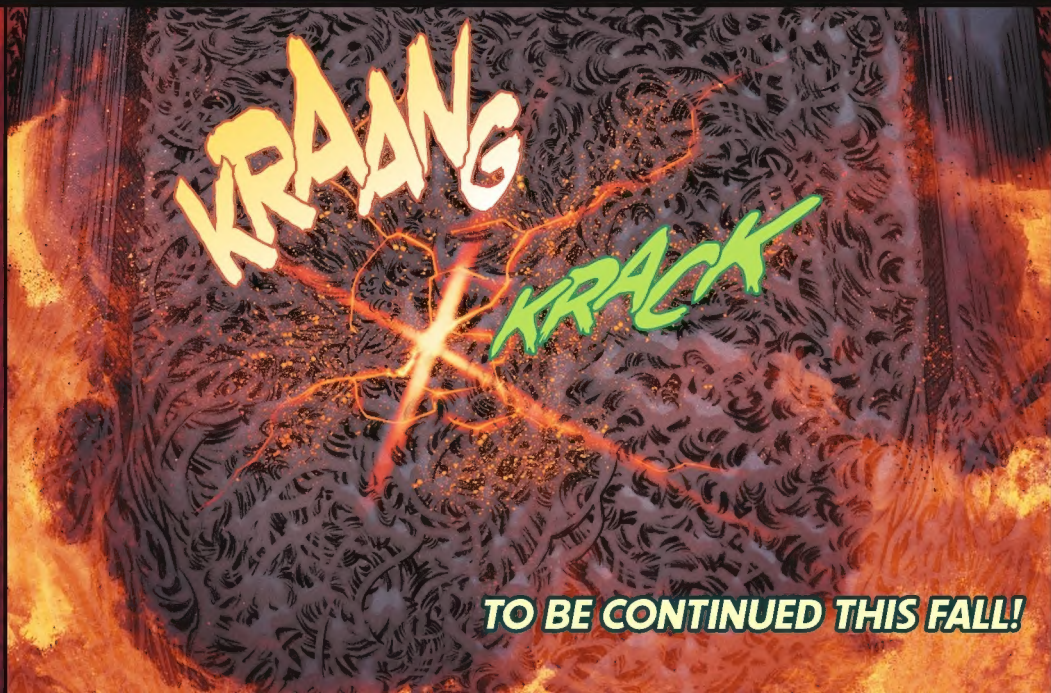
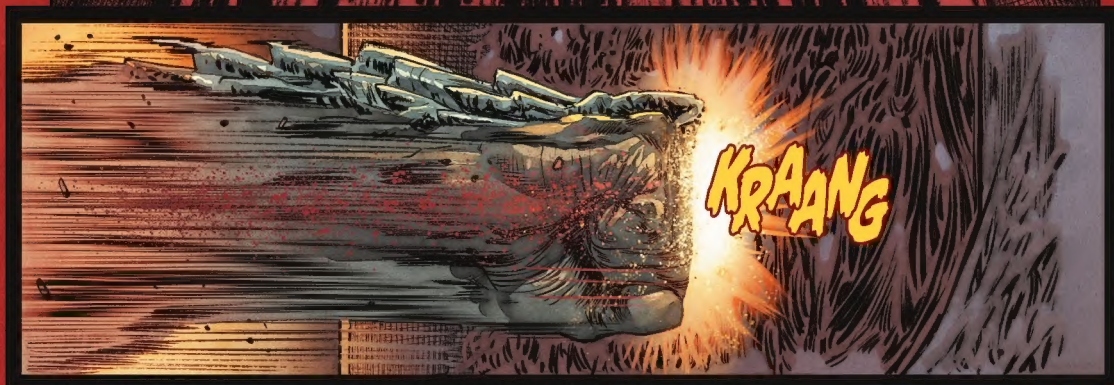


HEY!









TO BE CONTINUED THIS FALL!

THE DARK KNIGHT'S SECRET IDENTITY IS FOR
SALE IN THIS SPECIAL OVERSIZE ISSUE!

BATMAN

#150

ABSOLUTE
POWER
TIE-IN

© & TM DC.

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JULY

ABSOLUTE POWER

INTERVIEW WITH MARK WAID

Thanks to the combined forces of Failsafe and the Brainiac Queen, Amanda Waller has stolen the metahuman abilities of every hero and villain on Earth. But it's not the powers that make DC's heroes super, and in *Absolute Power* by the superstar team of writer Mark Waid and artist Dan Mora, a resistance will rise to take the fight to Waller's Task Force VII—though the odds have never been worse for our heroes.



Mark, what does taking away the powers of DC's heroes allow you to explore in these characters that fans haven't seen before?

Genuine, down-to-the-bone fear. Not only are the heroes utterly powerless, but every resource has been taken from them. Because Waller knows everyone's secrets, she's been able to cut heroes off from their home bases and strip them of their equipment—no Bat-arsenal for you, Bruce; no Terrifictech for you, Mr. Terrific; no lasso for you, Wonder Woman. Waller's sealed the time stream. She's walled off the Multiverse and the Microverse. She's had the Earth quarantined by the United Planets, leaving the heroes nowhere to run, nowhere to retreat. Ordinary people won't help the heroes because Waller's used A.I. fake news to convince humanity that the heroes have gone berserk. And the relentless Amazons just won't stop hunting them, not for one second.

Remember, I've read every single DC superhero comic ever, and I am here to tell you, I set out to make things more hopeless for our heroes than they have ever been. And that's just in the first issue.

***Absolute Power* encompasses multiple heroes and villains from across the DC Universe. Who are you having the most fun writing in this story? Which characters should readers keep an eye on that might be unexpected?**

I think everyone will be surprised at who's leading the powerless heroes—it's not Superman, Batman, or Wonder Woman, but the choice, to me, was obvious. Jon Kent and Dreamer have also become major players, as has Steve Trevor.

Plus, from the Island of Totally Forgotten Heroes, we've drafted Air Wave into the fight for a very specific reason. And what the hell is happening with Green Arrow, man?



Fans are familiar with the pairing of you and Dan Mora from *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, but what are you seeing from his work in *Absolute Power* that has surprised you?

I didn't know Dan *could* surprise me any further, but I was wrong. The stakes in *Absolute Power* are so, so much higher than they are in *World's Finest*, and Dan expertly creates a sense of dread that permeates every page of this book.



**DON'T MISS
ABSOLUTE
POWER #1,
ON SALE IN JULY!**

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

